

Memorandum of Understanding

Regarding Low Pollution Marine Engines
Between
Environmental Protection Agency New England
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
National Marine Manufacturers Association
Marine Retailers Association of America
Rhode Island Marine Trades Association
And
Participating Retailers

Environmental Protection Agency New England (hereafter “EPA NE”), Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (hereafter “RI DEM”), National Marine Manufacturers Association (hereafter “NMMA”), Marine Retailers Association of America (hereafter “MRAA”), Rhode Island Marine Trades Association (hereafter “RIMTA”), and participating marine engine retailers (hereafter “Participating Retailers”) have established a voluntary agreement to support the use of low pollution outboard (OB) and personal watercraft (PWC) engines (such as direct fuel injected two-stroke and four-stroke OB/PWC engines) by the boating public of Rhode Island. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established that, from 1998 to 2006, manufacturers of OB/PWC engines must meet increasingly more stringent average emission rates. To achieve the yearly emission rates required by the regulations, it is anticipated that manufacturers will each year build increasing numbers of low pollution marine engines. EPA NE, RI DEM, NMMA, MRAA, RIMTA, and Participating Retailers have entered into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in an effort to accelerate the phase-in of these low pollution marine engines in Rhode Island.

Participating Retailers agree to make every reasonable effort to sell low pollution OB/PWC marine engines. Low pollution engines are those that meet or exceed the 2006 EPA requirements for manufacturers emissions standards, such as direct fuel injection two-stroke and four-stroke engines. The goal is for the New England region to sell low pollution OB/PWC marine engines at the following percentages of the total number of new model year marine engines sold per year:

2002: seventy-five percent (75%) or more
2003: eighty percent (80%) or more
2004-2005: ninety five percent (95%) or more

RIMTA, NMMA and MRAA agree to support their members in achieving these goals through providing assistance in areas such as marketing, communications, training and research.

This MOU assumes that sufficient quantities of low pollution OB/PWC engines will be available for purchase by Rhode Island boaters and that these engines will be available from marine manufacturers whose production and delivery capacities will be able to support this agreement. Participating Retailers will use their best efforts to obtain low pollution OB/PWC marine engines from the manufacturers of these engines.

Participating Retailers agree to make available to RIMTA annual reports detailing the percentage of low pollution OB/PWC marine engines sold commencing with the calendar year 2002. These reports will be submitted to RIMTA by the last day of December for each reporting year. RIMTA agrees to make available to EPA NE and RI DEM aggregate sales information on progress toward these goals.

EPA NE and RI DEM agree to support the use of low pollution OB/PWC marine engines by the boating public. As part of this effort however, EPA NE and RI DEM do not endorse, certify or confirm the effectiveness of any brand or manufacturer of a particular technology. EPA NE and RI DEM will work jointly to develop public education materials such as fact sheets, a web page, and public service announcements. Further, EPA NE will work with other New England state agencies and municipalities to support the purchase and use of low pollution OB/PWC marine engines by the State of Rhode Island and its communities.

This agreement has been executed on the dates shown below between EPA NE, RI DEM, NMMA, MRAA, RIMTA, and Participating Retailers.

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SIGNATORY PAGE

Robert W. Varney, Regional Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency New England

Date

Jan H. Reitsma, Director,
Rhode Island Department of Environmental
Management

Date

Ken Kubic, President
Rhode Island Marine Trades Association

Date

Mick Blackistone, Vice President
Government Relations
National Marine Manufacturers Association

Date

Larry Innis, Government Affairs Director
Marine Retailers Association of America

Date

(RIMOU2006)